

Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council
Planning Committee Meeting

Wednesday, January 27, 2016, 10:00-12:00 p.m.
Dutchess County Central Services, 27 High Street (1st Floor), Poughkeepsie, NY

Meeting Summary

1. Introductions – See attached list.

2. Announcements

Mark DeBald (PDCTC) noted again that the new federal transportation law, [Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act \(FAST\) Act](#), was signed into law on December 4, 2015. This law authorizes Federal highway, highway safety, transit, and rail programs for five years from Federal Fiscal Years (FFY) 2016 through 2020. Mark also stated that the FAST Act now allows National Highway Performance Program (NHPP) funding to be allocated to federal-aid eligible bridges that are not on the National Highway System (NHS).

Mark noted that the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) issued its key crash data findings for 2014. In 2014, there were 32,675 people killed in motor vehicle crashes in the U.S. Fatalities have decreased 25 percent from 2005 to 2014 and the number of people injured has decreased 13 percent from 2005 to 2014. Alcohol-impaired driving fatalities accounted for 31 percent of total fatalities – 9,967 alcohol-impaired-driving fatalities in 2014. The nation lost 4,884 pedestrians and 726 cyclists in motor vehicle crashes in 2014.

Mark remarked that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) reported that 2015 will likely be a record year for Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT). By the end of November, U.S. drivers had racked up about 2.88 trillion vehicle miles traveled, with each of the first 11 months of the year showing an increase of between 2.5 and 4.9 percent over the corresponding month from 2014. These figures put the 2015 total over 3.1 trillion; compared to 2014, that is an increase more than 100 billion miles. Despite the evidence that suggests that individuals are driving fewer miles per person, an increasing population with increasing freight demands still leads to more and more total miles traveled, and more challenges on the road ahead. Tom Weiner (NYSDOT) added that he would like to see how this trend affects fatalities in the future.

Mark explained that annual 'Obligation Reports' are a federal requirement and ensure that the public has an accurate understanding of how federal funds are actually spent on transportation projects. He informed the committee that the [PDCTC Annual Listing of Obligated Projects for FFY 2015](#) was completed and posted to the website.

Mark also noted that new membership for the 2016 year became effective Jan. 1st. The Town of Pleasant Valley and the Village of Pawling are the new voting members from the partially urbanized towns and the urbanized villages, respectively; they are replacing the Town of Pawling and the Village of Fishkill. Mark noted that the rotating members are nominated to their positions by the Dutchess County Mayors and Supervisors Association.

Emily Dozier (PDCTC) added that an introductory MPO session will be held in the upcoming year for all new members (and any existing members) who would like to learn more about the PDCTC and metropolitan transportation planning. *(Note: This event has since been scheduled for Monday, February 22, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Dutchess County Department of Planning and Development, 27 High St, Poughkeepsie).* Bob Balkind (DCDPW) stated that he would like to be included in the introductory MPO session.

Mark reminded the committee that the PDCTC bylaws – Decision Making section will be changed to authorize the Council to use mail/email/fax ballots, as done pre-2010. This action will be voted on at the March 24, 2016 Executive Council meeting. If anyone is the committee has any further comments on the revised proposal to amend the Decision Making section of our Bylaws, please contact PDCTC staff.

Bob Balkind (DCDPW) inquired about the HSIP/BP funding application awards; Tom Weiner (NYSDOT) announced that no final selections have been announced as of yet. He will inform committee members when awards are finalized and announced. Bob Balkind added that these funding sources would allow some flexibility on the 2017-2021 TIP.

Bob Balkind (DCDPW) also announced that \$500 million has been allocated (over the next five (5) years) in the Governor's State budget to the 'Bridge NY' Program. This money will be leveraged to local communities and can also be used for paving and culvert needs; he will email this information to the group.

3. Public Participation – Mark opened the meeting for public comment or general announcements; none were received.

4. PDCTC Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) – *Moving Dutchess 2*

Per the suggestion of Bob LaColla (Town of Fishkill), Mark created an Executive Summary for *Moving Dutchess 2* in the hopes of crafting a more helpful and user-friendly way to convey the plan to municipalities. Bob also suggested sending each municipality their respective list of recommendations to be incorporated into their Comprehensive Plans. Mark explained that *Moving Dutchess 2* will serve as the sixth long-range, Metropolitan Transportation Plan of the PDCTC. With a planning horizon year of 2040, *Moving Dutchess 2* seeks to identify strategies and recommendations to preserve the existing transportation system and meet future travel demands over the next 25-years in Dutchess County. The 'fiscally constrained' Plan aims to preserve our highways and bridges; maintain our transit system; improve transportation safety; reduce traffic congestion; increase walking and bicycling; increase

vanpooling and carpooling; improve transportation security; reduce transportation-related impacts to the environment; increase public participation; and improve the delivery of federally-funded transportation projects. Mark added that an e-newsletter on the MTP will be released in soon.

Also, Mark noted that second drafts of Ch. 7 (Performance Measures) and Ch. 8 (Recommendations) were updated on the [MTP website](#) earlier this month. The updates for Ch. 7 include the removal of some performance measures based on concerns by member agencies about the potential impact that they would have on future funding. PDCTC staff also updated a variety of missing information on performance measures from the first draft, to include items on pavement quality data, project delivery, and walking and bicycling trips; the dashboard colors were also updated. For Ch. 8, PDCTC staff updated the financial information based on the planning targets used by NYSDOT for the upcoming FFY 2017-2021 TIP.

The PDCTC is required to hold a 30-day public comment period on the new Plan, which will begin February 17, 2016 until March 17, 2016. This gives PDCTC staff one week before the March 24, 2016 Executive Council meeting to organize comments and respond to any questions. A public meeting for the draft plan will be held most likely the 1st week of March. *(Note: The public meeting has since been scheduled and will be held at the Adriance Library (93 Market St, Poughkeepsie) on March 3, 2016 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.).*

Mark announced that the PDCTC is on schedule to seek Council approval for *Moving Dutchess 2* at its Meeting on March 24, 2016 at 1:30 p.m. at The Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Home (4079 Albany Post Road, Hyde Park).

Mark informed the Committee that the PDCTC will need to lower our future funding estimates from the previous plan, since we are not receiving increased funding or amounts that truly track inflation.

Bob LaColla (Town of Fishkill) asked Mark to explain the opportunities and constraints associated with transportation planning for municipalities. Mark emphasized the value of the planning studies and data analysis performed by staff (e.g. safety assessments, sidewalk studies, crash data, traffic counts, etc.) and what the PDCTC can provide to local communities; he noted that among the constraints would be limited staff time.

5. Draft FFY 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Mark stated that, for the five year period, the PDCTC has a total target of \$13.9 million for STP Large Urban and Flex combined, and \$2.2 million for STP-Off System Bridges; in total, there is \$16.1 million of federal funding available. This is assuming that projects scheduled for construction in 2016 will be completed in 2016; this includes two DPW bridge projects (PIN 875591-Bridge C-19 & 875726-Bridge RH-25), and the City of Poughkeepsie's Little George/Creek/Smith Rd. roundabout (PIN 875782). Not counting HPP, SRTS, or TAP

projects, there are 12 local projects on the 2017-2021 TIP (6 DPW, 4 City of Poughkeepsie, and 2 City of Beacon). Mark added that New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) has entered balanced revisions into PSS. In order to balance the TIP, Tom Weiner (NYSDOT) moved unobligated projects beyond the TIP program scope. Tom added that he will send the state projects in the 2017-2021 TIP to PDCTC staff for reference. Council approval is still expected to occur in June 2016 with a public comment period in May.

6. Draft SFY 2016-2017 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Mark noted that the UPWP is the PDCTC's annual statement of work for the upcoming year, outlining the planning tasks and budgets to be completed by the MPO and member agencies. A [second draft of the UPWP](#) is posted on our website. Mark reviewed the major changes in the upcoming UPWP:

- TJ 26 – Pavement Condition Monitoring Program (Local Federal-Aid Roads) was renamed to be distinct from TJ 27 – Cornell Local Roads Program (CLRP) Pavement Management Program. This data will be sent to municipalities for their records.
- TJ 29 – County-wide Vehicle Speed Survey is a new task that will track 'high-end speeders' on County roads.
- TJ 31 – Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) (*Moving Dutchess 2*) Implementation was renamed to reflect the completion of the plan update.
- TJ 34 – Congestion Management Plan was renamed to reflect the new term created by the FAST Act.
- TJ 43 – City of Poughkeepsie Transportation Planning Activities was renamed to capture all varieties of transportation planning/implementation in the City, not solely waterfront redevelopment.
- TJ 45 – Complete Streets Implementation is a new task code and includes the coordination of the new countywide walking and bicycling safety campaign. Emily Dozier (PDCTC) encouraged any municipality interested in developing a Complete Streets Policy to contact her for more information.
- TJ 74 – Regional Transit Planning was renumbered.

Mark added that Planning Emphasis Areas (PEAs) are established by the FHWA and FTA to advance national goals identified in federal law, to reflect federal priorities, and to respond to congressional direction established through the appropriations process. Planning Emphasis Areas (PEAs) are intended to highlight subjects that should be addressed in federally funded planning programs.

The PDCTC 2016-2017 Program Budget is \$1,139,023. Mark added that a portion of the savings backlog will be programmed in the new 2016-2017 UPWP. Mark encouraged committee members review the UPWP and to reach out to the PDCTC if there are any transportation planning projects that they would like to do in the upcoming year. He added that the PDCTC will be doing a sidewalk study for the Arlington Business District in the Town

of Poughkeepsie starting in spring 2016. The PDCTC will hold a 30-day public comment period for the new UPWP starting on Feb. 8, 2016 through March 8, 2016.

7. FFY 2015 FTA Section 5307 & 5339 Funding

Mark noted that the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) allocates funding to urbanized areas. Based on Census data, the Poughkeepsie Newburgh urbanized area includes Dutchess, Ulster, and Orange Counties in New York, and Passaic County in New Jersey. Mark explained that due to the nature of our two-state urbanized area, interstate agreements are required to allocate our transit funding. Mark presented the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2015 allocation schedule for both the Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Program and the 5339 Bus and Bus Facilities Formula Program (including the PDCTC sub-allocations to Dutchess County and the City of Poughkeepsie.) These allocations have been organized into a variety of resolutions, which all three MPOs will have to agree upon and approve at their respective Executive/Council voting meetings.

Bob Balkind (DCDPW) inquired if the Harlem Valley Rail Trail could apply for funding if there is a call for projects for the unallocated FFY 2013-2015 5307/5340 funds. DCPT would most likely be the designated recipient; all involved entities will discuss this matter further and report back.

8. Project Updates

Mark announced that applications for the Cornell Local Roads Program (CLRP) – Cornell Asset Management Program (CAMP) summer intern project to assess local pavement conditions are due February 29, 2016. Training occurs June 1-2 at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY. Dutchess County DPW will be participating.

Mark stated that the [Upper Route 9G Corridor Management Plan \(CMP\)](#) project consultant, VHB Engineering, has completed a draft of Tech Memo #4 (Future Conditions), and is developing a preliminary list of recommendations to be included with Tech Memo #5 (Alternatives). The PDCTC will hold the next Study Advisory Committee meeting on February 19, 2016 at 10 a.m. at Red Hook Town Hall.

Emily Dozier (PDCTC) added that Dutchess County's Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee meets quarterly on the last Thursday of each month. The next meeting will take place on April 28, 2016 at Dutchess Community College from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more information regarding the committee, please see the [BPAC website](#).

9. Public Participation – Mark opened the meeting for public comment or general announcements; none were received.

10. Upcoming Meeting: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at the Dutchess County Department of Planning and Development, 27 High Street, 2nd Floor Conference Room, Poughkeepsie, NY.

Attendance List

	First Name	Last Name	Organization	Phone
1	Mark	Debald	PDCTC	845-486-3600
2	Emily	Dozier	PDCTC	845-486-3600
3	Shelby	Tompkins	PDCTC	845-486-3600
4	Barbara	Zulauf	Town of Beekman	845-724-5300
5	Tom	Weiner	NYSDOT	845-431-5723
6	Marleen	Stein	MTA	212-878-7080
7	Don	Beer	Town of Poughkeepsie	845-790-4736
8	Bob	Balkind	DCDPW	845-486-2925
9	Bob	LaColla	Town of Fishkill	845-831-7800
10	Leah	Mosall	MTA Planning	212-878-4605
11	Brian	Coons	T/Poughkeepsie; T/Pine Plains	845-435-3657
12	Joe	Chenier	City of Poughkeepsie	845-451-4215
13	Mark	Figliozi	Town of Pleasant Valley	845-635-3598
14	Tracy	Hermann	City of Poughkeepsie	845-416-8285
15	Emily	Svenson	Town of Hyde Park	845-489-2286
16	Jim	Morena	MNR (by phone)	212-340-4011